MARVEL
015
AARON
MAYHEW
STAR WARS

FROM THE JOURNALS OF
OLD BEN KENOBI

WHILE SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS IN HIS
QUEST TO BECOME A JEDI,
LUKE SKYWALKER HAS UNCOVERED A
JOURNAL WRITTEN BY JEDI MASTER
OBI-WAN KENOBI. THE JOURNAL DETAILS
KENOBI'S ADVENTURES DURING THE TIME
HE WAS IN HIDING ON TATOOINE--
INCLUDING WHEN OBI-WAN RESCUED
A YOUNG LUKE FROM JABBA THE HUTT'S
THUGS DURING THE GREAT DROUGHT.
WHAT FOLLOWS IS AN EXCERPT
FROM THAT JOURNAL.

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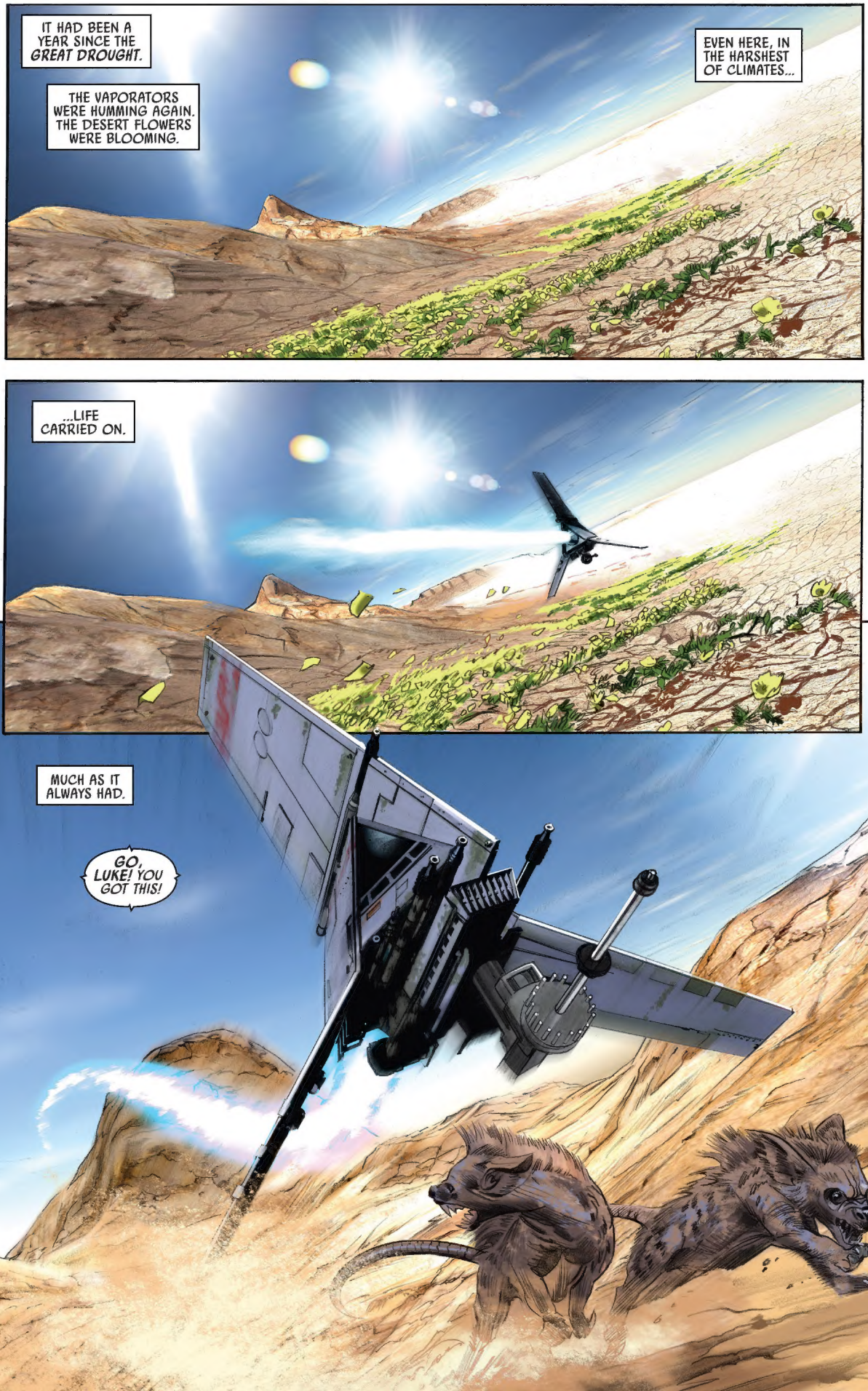

IT HAD BEEN A YEAR SINCE THE GREAT DROUGHT.
THE VAPORATORS WERE HUMMING AGAIN. THE DESERT FLOWERS WERE BLOOMING.
EVEN HERE, IN THE HARSHEST OF CLIMATES...
...LIFE CARRIED ON.
MUCH AS IT ALWAYS HAD.
GO, LUKE! YOU GOT THIS!

WOW.
AND YOU SAID I'D NEVER MAKE IT THROUGH MUSHROOM MESA, BIGGS.
DON'T GET TOO COCKY, SKYBOY.
I WAS BORN FOR THIS.
YEAH, WELL...
THERE'S STILL TIME TO CALL THIS OFF, YOU KNOW. MAYBE MAKE A FEW MORE TEST FLIGHTS THROUGH JAG CRAG GORGE BEFORE...
NO CAN DO, BIGGS.
...LET'S HOPE BEGGAR'S CANYON DOESN'T DISAGREE.

EVEN WATCHING FROM AFAR OVER THE YEARS, IT WAS PLAIN TO SEE...
LUKE SKYWALKER WAS HIS FATHER'S SON. IN SO VERY MANY WAYS.
WHICH WAS PRECISELY WHAT WORRIED ME.
FEEL THE FORCE, LUKE. FEEL IT FLOWING THROUGH YOU.
IF YOU CAN.
ANAKIN WAS THE MOST DARING PILOT I'D EVER SEEN. EVEN AS A BOY.
COULD HIS SON POSSIBLY BE AS STRONG IN THE FORCE?
THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO KNOW FOR SURE.
LUKE...MAYBE YOU SHOULD SLOW DOWN A LITTLE. IT'S A PRETTY TIGHT SQUEEZE. YOU MIGHT--
I CAN DO THIS! THIS IS MY KEY TO GETTING OFF THIS STUPID ROCK SOMEDAY!
FIRST I CONQUER BEGGAR'S CANYON! NEXT STOP, THE STARS!
WOOHOO! HERE WE...

I SUPPOSE IT SHOULD GO WITHOUT SAYING... BUT YOU'RE *GROUNDED* FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
I KNOW IT LOOKS BAD, *UNCLE OWEN*, BUT I CAN FIX IT. I JUST NEED SOME NEW TOOLS AND A FEW PARTS IS ALL.
IF YOU'D LET ME ENTER THE ANCHORHEAD RACE LIKE I'VE--
RACE? LUKE, YOU NEARLY GOT YOURSELF *KILLED!*
OWEN...
NO! I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HIM FLY THAT THING IN THE FIRST PLACE!
NOW WE'RE OUT A SPEEDER. A SPEEDER WE CAN'T AFFORD TO GET FIXED.
I TOLD YOU, I'LL PAY FOR IT MYSELF, IF YOU JUST LET ME RACE.

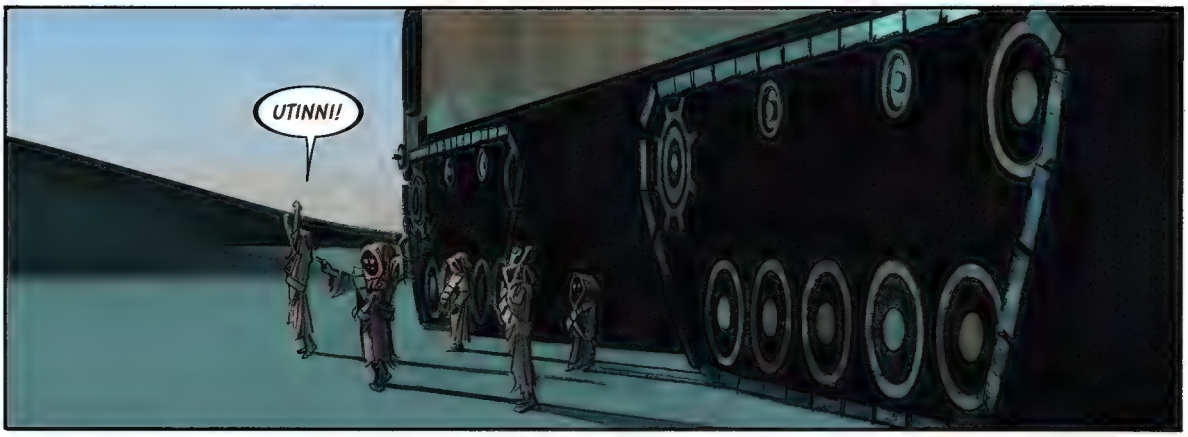
I CAN WIN. I'M ALREADY THE BEST BUSH PILOT MY AGE ON TATOOINE.
I JUST CLIPPED THE EDGE OF THE CANYON IS ALL. BUT THE NEXT TIME--
NEXT TIME?
THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME. WHEN I SAY YOU'RE GROUNDED, I MEAN THAT LITERALLY.
BEST GET USED TO WALKING, LUKE SKYWALKER. BECAUSE AS LONG AS I LIVE...
"...YOU'LL NEVER FLY AGAIN."
SINCE MY RUN-IN WITH JABBA'S THUGS DURING THE DROUGHT, I HAD TRIED MY BEST TO BECOME INVISIBLE.

TO BECOME EVEN MORE OF A HERMIT AND RECLUSE.
THE HUTT WAS STILL DESPERATE TO FIND THE MYSTERIOUS MAN WHO HAD DEFIED HIM.
IF I NEEDED HELP, I COULDN'T RISK SEEKING IT IN TOWN.
I COULD ONLY MAINTAIN MY LOW PROFILE...
...AMONG THOSE WHO WERE ALREADY LOWLY.
M'UM M'ALOO.
I UNDERSTAND YOU'VE HAD SOME *TROUBLES* RECENTLY.
I KNOW I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH, BUT...
...PERHAPS WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO ONE ANOTHER.

THE JAWAS HAD RECENTLY BEEN THE VICTIMS OF SEVERAL RAIDS.
RAIDS THEY WERE UNABLE TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST.
THERE'S STILL HOPE, MASTER QUI-GON.
YOU THOUGHT ANAKIN WAS THE CHOSEN ONE. PERHAPS IN A WAY, HE WAS.
IF HIS *SON* SHOWS THE SAME ABILITIES, THEN JUST MAYBE...
OBI-WAN KENOBI, BODYGUARD FOR HIRE. I'D HAD WORSE JOBS.
THOUGH THE *CLONE WARS* SEEMED SO VERY LONG AGO AND VERY FAR AWAY.
MY WAR HAD ENDED.
BADLY, AS I RECALLED.

BUT MY FIGHT CARRIED ON.
EEEEEERRHHHRRRRRRGGHH!
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY, MY FRIEND.

THIS WOULD BE FAR EASIER WITH A LIGHTSABER, BUT I SUPPOSE I COULD USE THE EXERCISE.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN INTERFERING, I KNEW THAT. MY ORDERS WERE TO PROTECT THE BOY AND KEEP HIM HIDDEN.
BUT I WAS NO MASTER YODA. I KNEW I WOULDN'T BE AROUND FOR 800 YEARS TO WATCH OVER HIM.
AT SOME POINT, LUKE SKYWALKER WAS GOING TO HAVE TO FEND FOR HIMSELF.
AND SOMETHING TOLD ME THAT WHEN THAT DAY CAME...
...HE WOULD NEED TO KNOW HOW TO *FLY*.


UTINNI!

IT TOOK ALL NIGHT, BUT I IMAGINED THE *TUSKEN RAIDERS* WOULDN'T BE RAIDING THERE AGAIN ANY TIME SOON.

THOUGH I REALLY DID NEED TO DEVISE AN EASIER WAY TO FRIGHTEN THEM OFF.
HNGH. WHY COULDN'T WE HAVE HIDDEN THE BOY...ON A NICE QUIET WORLD OF NATURAL *HOT SPRINGS?*
OH, MY BACK.

BUT IT WAS WORTH IT.
FOR ANOTHER DAY AT LEAST, I FELT LIKE A *JEDI* AGAIN.
MY ONLY HOPE WAS THAT...

...I WASN'T ALONE IN THAT FEELING.
WE'LL TAKE THAT ASTROMECH.
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT SPEAKS BOCCE?
UTINNI.
HUH? WHAT'S...
NO, WE'RE ONLY BUYING THE DROIDS. WE CAN'T AFFORD ANYTHING...
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I TOLD YOU...
YOU'RE JUST GONNA *LEAVE* THIS HERE? BUT...

BUT THESE...THESE ARE...
...SKYHOPPER PARTS!
HA HA!
THANKS, UNCLE OWEN!
WHAT WAS THAT?
THANKS FOR WHAT?
LUKE?

REMEMBER WHEN I USED TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THE FOOD AT THE JEDI TEMPLE, MASTER?
THAT WAS BEFORE I'D HAD SNAKE EVERY NIGHT FOR A YEAR.
BLMRGH. IT'S A GOOD THING I'M STRONG IN THE FORCE OR I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FORCE IT DOWN.
KNOCK KNOCK
BE RIGHT THERE.
WE DON'T GET MANY VISITORS IN THE DUNE SEA. HOW CAN I...

YOU CAN STAY AWAY FROM MY FAMILY!
OWEN, PLEASE, COME IN. HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR SNAKE?
I'M NOT *STUPID*, KENOBI. JUST BECAUSE I HAVEN'T FLOWN ACROSS THE GALAXY LIKE YOU HAVE DOESN'T MAKE ME SOME SORT OF IGNORANT HICK.
I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING.
EVER SINCE YOU SHOWED UP, MINE IS THE ONLY HOUSE FOR KILOMETERS THAT'S NEVER BEEN ATTACKED BY SAND PEOPLE. THAT WAS NEVER RAIDED BY JABBA'S THUGS.
AND NOW SUDDENLY *JAWAS* ARE EVEN GIVING US PARTS FOR *FREE*.
SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOU'VE BEEN RATHER BLESSED, OWEN. THE FORCE WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS.
NO, *YOU* DO, YOU CRAZY JEDI! BUT IT ENDS NOW!

I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU WARP THE BOY LIKE YOU DID HIS FATHER.
YOU BROUGHT HIM TO ME TO PROTECT, AND THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING.
PROTECTING HIM FROM *YOU*.
I'M NOT ASKING TO TRAIN THE BOY. YOU'VE MADE YOURSELF QUITE CLEAR ON THAT MATTER.
BUT LUKE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE SOMETHING...TRULY REMARKABLE.
JUST AS HIS FATHER WAS, BEFORE HE--
BEFORE YOU GOT HIM *KILLED!*
HAVEN'T YOU MURDERED *ENOUGH* SKYWALKERS ALREADY, KENOBI?
THIS ONE'S ONLY A BOY. A FOOLHARDY BOY WHO'S TOO MUCH LIKE HIS FATHER AS IT IS.
WE BOTH KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF HE EVER LEAVES TATOOINE. HE WON'T BE COMING BACK.
NOT ALIVE, AT LEAST.
I ONLY EVER WANTED TO HELP.
AND I BELIEVE I'VE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE DON'T WANT YOUR HELP.

YOU'RE A DANGEROUS MAN, OBI-WAN KENOBI. WHETHER YOU SEE IT OR NOT.
TROUBLE ALWAYS HAS A WAY OF FINDING YOU, DOESN'T IT? THOUGH I SUPPOSE IT DOESN'T HAVE TO LOOK VERY HARD.
THAT TROUBLE IS GOING TO GET SOMEONE SERIOUSLY HURT SOMEDAY.
DO US ALL A FAVOR...
"...AND KEEP YOUR TROUBLE TO YOURSELF."

HE WAS RIGHT.
I WASN'T VERY GOOD AT KEEPING OUT OF TROUBLE. EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF A DESERT.
BUT THAT TROUBLE WOULD NEVER FIND ITS WAY TO LUKE.
NOT WHILE I STILL LIVED.
AND IF THERE WAS ONE THING I'D GOTTEN SURPRISINGLY GOOD AT OVER THE YEARS, OTHER THAN FINDING TROUBLE...
...IT WAS NOT DYING.
JUST ASK DARTH MAUL. OR COUNT DOOKU. OR GENERAL GRIEVOUS.

JUST ASK JABBA THE HUTT.
HO HO HOOO!
THE ILLUSTRIOUS JABBA SAYS...HE WOULD FIRST LIKE A DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR VAUNTED SKILL, BEFORE AGREEING TO PAY YOUR RATHER RIDICULOUS FEE.
YOU MAY BEGIN THIS DEMONSTRATION AT ONCE.
OR ELSE YOU MAY BEGIN DYING.

HRRGH!
HO HO HOOO HO HO.
SQQUEEEEEEL!
U KULLE RAH DOE KANKEE KUNG.
JABBA SAYS...THAT WILL DO.
KRRRKCH!
HE WILL PAY YOU HALF NOW AND HALF WHEN YOU HAVE FOUND THE MAN WHO AMBUSHED HIS WATER TAX COLLECTORS DURING THE GREAT DROUGHT.

DELIVER THIS MAN ALIVE, SO THAT JABBA MIGHT WATCH HIM DIE IN PERSON, AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE A GENEROUS BONUS.
OR YOU MAY ALSO SIMPLY BRING US HIS HEAD.
DO YOU FIND THESE TERMS ACCEPTABLE, BLACK KRRSANTAN?
WWWWRRRRRRRRRRGGG

STAR WARS®
NEXT ISSUE:
TERRY DODSON
RACHEL

Tour
THE SEVEN SEAS
With
BLACK MANTA
EMPIRE
Call 555-FISH